IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) A method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track, comprising:

evaluating an audio track to determine the loudness levels of a plurality of frames in the audio track such that the loudness levels of the plurality of frames are representative of the loudness distribution of frames across the entire audio track;

determining an apparent loudness weighting for the plurality of frames of the audio track such that the weighting emphasizes the relatively greater effect that louder frames have on loudness perception, while including the contribution to overall loudness made by less loud frames; and

adjusting the loudness of the track based on the determined loudness levels and apparent loudness weighting of the plurality of frames so that the apparent loudness of the track matches a desired apparent loudness.

23. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, wherein evaluating an audio track to determine the distribution of loudness levels present in the audio track comprises determining levels for all frames comprising the audio track.

24. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, wherein evaluating an audio track to determine loudness levels for a plurality of frames in the audio track comprises determining levels for frames sampled from across all frames comprising the audio track.

25. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, wherein evaluating an audio track to determine loudness levels for a plurality of frames in the audio track comprises determining levels for all frames in the audio track.

26. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, further
comprising using an emphasis parameter to derive the apparent loudness weight of an individual
frame of the audio track such that the apparent loudness weight comprises the emphasis
parameter raised to the negative power of a loudness value for the frame.

27 (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, wherein at
least one of evaluating an audio track to determine the loudness levels of a plurality of frames
and determining an apparent loudness weighting for the plurality of frames comprises
performing such calculations based on loudness value distribution information for the audio track
represented in a histogram.

28. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, wherein the
apparent loudness weight is frequency-weighted to compensate for perceived loudness
differences at different frequencies.

29. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 22, wherein
adjusting the loudness of the track comprises combining aggregated weighted loudness values to
determine apparent loudness for the track.

30. (New)   A method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track, comprising:

      evaluating an audio track to determine the loudness levels of a plurality of frames in the
audio track such that the loudness levels of the plurality of frames are representative of the
loudness distribution of frames across the entire audio track;

      using the loudness levels of a plurality of frames in the audio track to calculate a dynamic
spread of the audio track;

      determining a non-linear compressor transfer function configured to produce a desired
dynamic spread, the non-linear compressor transfer function comprising greater dynamic range
compression at high loudness levels that at low loudness levels; and

      applying the determined non-linear compressor transfer function to the audio track to
produce an audio track with the desired dynamic spread.

31. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 30, further
comprising adjusting the loudness of the track based on the determined loudness levels so that
the apparent loudness of the track matches a desired apparent loudness.

32. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 30, wherein a
threshold between linear segments of the non-linear compressor transfer function is based on
statistical analysis of audio track

33. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 32, wherein the
threshold is at specified percentile domain of loudness levels in the audio track.

34. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 32, further
comprising normalizing the loudness of the specified percentile domain of loudness levels in
audio track to a desired loudness level.

35. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 30, wherein determining a non-linear compressor transfer function configured to produce a desired dynamic spread comprises estimation of dynamic spread on the audio track with a calculated non-linear compressor transfer function applied by applying the calculated non-linear compressor transfer function to at least one of histogram or sample frame data.

36. (New)   The method of adjusting the dynamics of an audio track of claim 35, wherein the non-linear compressor transfer function is iteratively calculated to achieve a desired dynamic spread.